

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 01025 161109Z

43

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MMO-01 CU-02 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

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R 161053Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6886

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 1025

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OGEN APER ABUD TH

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO POSTPONE 1976 ANNUAL POLICY
ASSESSMENT FOR THAILAND

REF: 75 STATE 293977

1. THE RECENT DISSOLUTION OF THE THAI LOWER HOUSE, AND THE APRIL 4 SCHEDULE FOR NATIONAL ELECTIONS, RAISE MAJOR QUESTIONS AFFECTING THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF THAI POLICY. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD POSTPONE SUBMISSION OF OUR ANNUAL ASSESSMENT, NOW DUE MARCH 31 (REFTEL). IF LAST YEAR'S ELECTIONS ARE ANY INDICATION, AND WE BELIEVE THAT THEY ARE, IT MAY TAKE SEVERAL WEEKS OR LONGER FOR THE RESULTING MULTIPLICITY OF POLITICAL PARTIES TO SORT THEMSELVES INTO A COALITION AND SUBSEQUENT GOVERNMENT.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZE EMBASSY BANGKOK TO SUBMIT ITS ANNUAL POLICY ASSESSMENT BY MAY 31. THIS ADDITIONAL TWO MONTH PERIOD WILL ALSO GIVE US MORE TIME TO OBTAIN AN ACCURATE FIX ON THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL REACTION TO THE LONGER TERM RESIDUAL U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN THAILAND.
MASTERS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: vogelfj
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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